

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows, substituting any amended claim(s) for the corresponding pending claim(s):

1. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, comprising:

a lead body having an insulator and ~~at least one~~ multiple conductors, wherein the insulator includes ~~at least one~~ a respective welding region for each of said multiple conductors formed by the removal of at least a portion of the insulator, ~~the~~ each welding region formed to expose at least a portion of ~~the~~ at least one a respective conductor, wherein each welding region is formed obliquely across said lead body and parallel to the respective conductor;

~~at least one~~ a respective conductive pad within ~~the~~ each welding region, ~~the~~ each conductive pad electrically connected to ~~the~~ at least one the respective conductor; and

a respective band welded to ~~the~~ each conductive pad at the welding region to electrically contact the band to the ~~at least one~~ respective conductor.

2. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ each welding region comprises a groove cut in the insulator.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ each conductive pad is electrically connected to the respective ~~at least one~~ conductor using a method selected from the group consisting of conductive adhesives and crimping.

5. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ each conductive pad comprises a metal selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, MP35N, platinum, gold, silver, copper, and vanadium.

6. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ each band is selected from the group consisting of a band electrode, a band connector, and a sensor.

7. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ each band further comprises a plurality of projections on an inner wall of a lumen, wherein the projections space the inner wall from an outer surface of the lead body.

8. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 7, wherein at least three projections are positioned around the inner wall to center the lead body within the lumen.

9. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, comprising:

a lead body having an insulator and ~~at least one~~ multiple conductors, wherein the insulator includes ~~at least one~~ a respective welding region for each of said multiple conductors formed by the removal of at least a portion of the insulator, ~~the~~ each welding region formed to expose at least a portion of ~~the~~ at least one a respective conductor, wherein each welding region is formed obliquely across said lead body and parallel to a respective conductor;

~~at least one~~ a respective elongated conductive element, for each welding region, having a distal end and a proximal end, the proximal end electrically connected to the ~~at least one~~ conductor within the corresponding welding region; and

a respective band welded to the distal end of ~~the~~ each elongated conductive element to electrically connect the band to the ~~at least one~~ respective conductor, the band welded to the distal end of the elongated conductive ~~link~~ element outside of the welding region.

10. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein ~~the~~ each welding region comprises a groove cut in the insulator.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein ~~the~~ each elongated conductive element is selected from the group consisting of wire, ribbon wire, and cable.

13. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein ~~the~~ each elongated conductive element is electrically connected to the ~~at least one~~ respective conductor using a method selected from the list consisting of crimping and conductive adhesives.

14. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein ~~the~~ each elongated conductive element comprises a material selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, MP35N, platinum, gold, silver, copper, and vanadium.

15. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein ~~the~~ each band is selected from the group consisting of a band electrode, a band connector, and a sensor.

16. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein ~~the~~ each band further comprises a plurality of projections on an inner wall of a lumen, wherein the projections space the inner wall from an outer surface of the lead body.

17. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 16, wherein at least three projections are positioned around the inner wall to center the lead body within the lumen.

18-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, comprising:

a lead body having an insulator and ~~at least one~~ multiple conductors, wherein the insulator includes ~~at least one~~ a respective welding region, for each of said multiple conductors, defined by a groove formed in the insulator to expose at least a portion of ~~the at least one a~~ corresponding conductor, wherein each welding region is formed obliquely across said lead body and parallel to the respective conductor;

~~at least one~~ a respective conductive pad within ~~the~~ each welding region, the conductive pad electrically connected to the ~~least one~~ respective conductor; and

a respective band welded to ~~the~~ each conductive pad at the welding region to electrically connect the band to the ~~least one~~ respective conductor.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 31, wherein ~~the~~ each conductive pad is electrically connected to the ~~at least one~~ respective conductor using a method selected from the group consisting of conductive adhesives and crimping.